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ASHFORD URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1960

ON THE

PUBLIC HEALTH OF ASHFORD

BY THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J. MARSHALL

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE

LOCAL AUTHORITY, 1960

Medical Officer of Health (A.U.D.C.) and Principal Medical Officer (K.C.C.)

MARSHALL, J., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector

HAMMOND, S.F. M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

PRATT, S., M.A.P.H.I.

BODDY, F.H.D., M.A.P.H.I. (from 1st December)

RATHMELL, E.W.G., M.A.P.H.I. (to 8th October)

ASHFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, KENT

Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health and Senior Public Health Inspector for the Year 1960.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1960.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year Home Population was 26,680 an increase of 130 over that of the previous year.

Live Births and Rate

The number of live births was 436 (225 M. 211 F.) which was an increase of 55 over that of the previous year. The crude birth-rate was accordingly 16.34 which after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor computed from a population standardised for age and sex distribution, becomes 16.67 and was slightly lower than that of 17.1 for England and Wales.

Stillbirths and Rate

The number of stillbirths was 10 (3 M. 7 F.) and the corresponding rate was 22.42, being slightly higher than that of 19.7 for England and Wales.

Infant Deaths and Mortality Rate

Seven infant deaths were registered five of which were under four weeks of age, and the corresponding infantile mortality rate was 16.06 which compares favourably with that of 21.7 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were:-

- (1) Marasmus) - 2 weeks
 Inhalation of Vomit)
- (2) Broncho-pneumonia - 4 months
- (3) Failure to breathe fully due to retained mucus } - Less than 1 hour
 Verdict:- Want of attention at birth
- (4) Gross Prematurity - 25 minutes
- (5) Prematurity - 2 days
- (6) Prematurity - 5 days
- (7) Hydrocephalus) - 1 month
 Meningo-myelocele)

Maternal Deaths and Mortality Rate

This rate was nil, as there were no deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion.

Total Deaths and Death Rate

The total number of deaths from all causes was 311 (159 M., 152 F.) and the corresponding crude death rate was 11.66 which, after adjustment by the Registrar General's Comparability Factor, as for births, becomes reduced to 10.96 and was lower than that of 11.5 for England and Wales.

The chief group cause of deaths was Heart and Circulatory Diseases and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System which are the natural ultimate causes of death amongst the aged; of these there were 181.

An exception, however, is Disease of the Coronary Artery of the Heart which causes many deaths in middle age; altogether there were 66 deaths an increase of 24, i.e. 38%, compared with the previous year. Of these, 41 were male and 25 female, approximately a ratio of 2M : 1F. The ages at death ranged from 52 to 89 years and 12, i.e. 18%, of these were between 52 and 60 years inclusive; there was none under 50 years. Intensive research is being concentrated on its causation, which is still obscure, although there are theories that the excessive consumption of food, particularly sophisticated foods, combined with insufficient exercise and prolonged tension associated with excessive smoking are primary or contributory factors.

Cancer was the expected second highest cause of deaths of which there were 67, compared with 68 in the previous year. The majority of cases could be effectively treated, if diagnosis were established at a reasonably early stage of the disease, but the most common factor associated with late diagnosis is procrastination by patients, having regard to the fact that the majority are becoming senile and that the disease is insidious in its onset and advance.

Cancer of the Lung, however, like Coronary Thrombosis, is the cause of many deaths in middle age; of these there were 22 compared with 20 in the previous year, and the number has progressively increased from 3 in 1950, when the disease was separately classified as a cause of death. The ages at death ranged from 44 to 86 years, and there were 9 deaths or 41% under 60 years of age. It is striking that 21 of the 22 deaths were male, in view of the hypothesis or fact that the inhalation of tobacco smoke is a primary or contributory cause.

Cancer of the Breast caused 6 and Cancer of the Stomach 9 deaths.

The Infectious Diseases caused 2 deaths, both due to complications of measles during the epidemic which occurred within the year.

The Infectious Diseases

In the epidemic, 1,063 cases were notified, and the 2 deaths were due to (1) Acute bi-lateral Otitis Media and (2) Acute Encephalitis. There were no deaths from the most common complication viz. Broncho-pneumonia. These complications, however, are comparatively rare.

It is not possible to prevent the spread of measles as it is endemic amongst children and it is most highly infectious during the invasive phase when parents confuse it with the common cold and continue to send their children to school.

Gamma globulin is available from the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, for use to induce passive immunity in an exposed susceptible child who may be suffering from some other serious illness, but it is seldom used.

Scarlet Fever

Forty cases were notified throughout the year and were dispersed throughout the District. In its present phase, the disease is comparatively mild and only four patients were admitted to Hospital, primarily to prevent the spread of the infection to other children in their families. None suffered from any of the serious complications of former years. The sulphonamides and the Antibiotics to which the causal organism is sensitive are specific in treatment.

Erysipelas

Four cases were notified. When Scarlet Fever is prevalent, a few cases of Erysipelas also occur, as they are both caused by the same micro-organism. This was a serious infection before the Sulphonamides were introduced in 1936 and later the Antibiotics, which, as for Scarlet Fever,

are specific in treatment and it is dramatic to observe the serious inflammatory lesions of the skin heal within a few days after treatment with these drugs.

Puerperal Pyrexia

Only one case was notified. There were no cases of Puerperal Sepsis. Early treatment with the Sulphonamides or Antibiotics prevents the onset of sepsis or other serious complications.

Whooping Cough

Sixty-six cases were notified. An increasing number of children are being vaccinated against the disease and it is hoped that within a few years the number of cases will correspondingly decrease.

Only one case was admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital suffering from Broncho-pneumonia which is the most common and serious complication. There were no deaths.

Food Poisoning

Only one case was notified. The patient was a visitor who had brought a quantity of bacon with him and had stored it in a warm unventilated cupboard in the kitchen. Clinically, the illness was that of Staphylococcal Food Poisoning, which was confirmed when the *Staphylococcus Aureus* was isolated from the remaining part of the bacon.

The fact that there were no other cases of Food Poisoning, may be attributed to the vigilance and thoroughness of the Public Health Inspectors who are responsible for the inspection and sampling of food and drink.

Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria and other Notifiable Diseases

None of these was notified. No case of Diphtheria has occurred in the District since 1948 and no case of Poliomyelitis since 1957, which is conclusive evidence that immunisation and vaccination have created an effective barrier against outbreaks of these serious diseases, and it is likely that any cases in the future would occur amongst those not immunised or vaccinated.

Tuberculosis

Thirteen new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified, compared with five in the previous year. Six of those were in the 55 years plus age-groups and it is probable that they were latent chronic cases who had not previously been ascertained. There was only one case in the adolescent age group which denotes a very favourable trend. Ten of these new cases were revealed by the Mass Radiography Service, and it is probable that, had they not been ascertained, they would have been a source of infection to others causing many new cases; for this reason alone this Service is of inestimable value. B.C.G. vaccination is offered to children before leaving school and in the course of time should prove to be another valuable contributory factor towards the total elimination of the disease.

Only one new case of non-Respiratory Tuberculosis was notified. The patient was a woman of 70 years and the site of the disease was the femur.

There was no evidence that the milk supplies were a source of infection of Bovine Tuberculosis as was not uncommon before the District was designated a 'specific area' in April, 1958 when it became illegal to sell raw undesignated milks for consumption.

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In conclusion, I would like to thank you for your interest and assistance in the work of the Department, and also my staff for their very efficient service.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. MARSHALL M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Central Public Health Office,
14, Church Road,
Ashford, Kent.

Tel: No: Ashford 1485

SECTION A.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1960

AREA 5,719 acres

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF:

The Resident Population	...	...	26,680
<u>NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES ACCORDING TO THE RATE BOOKS</u>	...	...	9,136
<u>NUMBER OF BUSINESS PREMISES</u>	...	...	1,070
<u>RATEABLE VALUE</u>	...	...	£404,040
<u>SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE</u>	...	...	£1,665

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Ashford is both an agricultural and an industrial town and a business and shopping centre for the large rural community which surrounds it. It merits importance by containing the largest agricultural market in Kent and in having a railway junction where five lines converge, associated with which is a Carriage and Wagon Works, and Electric Carriage Repair and Inspection Shops. There is also a number of other Factories, including Cycle Works, Tyre Works, Iron Foundry, Printing Works, Agricultural and Vehicle Repair Shops, Flour Mills, Marine and Industrial Works, Light Engineering, Ordnance Depot, Bread Factory and a large Canning and dried foods factory.

At present there is little unemployment in this District and in general apart from the shortage of houses, social conditions are satisfactory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	M.	F.	Ashford Urban District	England and Wales
<u>Live Births</u>	436	225	211	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.34 (Adjusted Rate) 16.67
(a) Legitimate	418	217	201		
(b) Illegitimate	18	8	10		
<u>Stillbirths</u>	10	3	7	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	22.42
(a) Legitimate	10	3	7		
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-		
<u>Total live and still births</u>	446	228	218		
<u>Deaths</u>	311	159	152	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	11.66 (Adjusted Rate) 10.96
<u>Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion</u>	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	-
Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age	7	3	4	Rate per 1,000 live births	16.06
(a) Legitimate	7	3	4	Rate per 1,000 live births (legitimate)	16.75
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births (illegitimate)	-
<u>Deaths of Infants under Four Weeks of Age</u>	5	2	3	Rate per 1,000 live births	11.47
(a) Legitimate	5	2	3		Not available
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-		
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births					4.1%
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...			67
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...			2
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...			-
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (all ages)					1

CAUSES OF DEATH IN ASHFORD URBAN DISTRICT
DURING 1960

	ALL CAUSES			Males	Females
				159	152
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	-	2
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	5	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	21	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	11	17
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	-	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	13	31
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	41	25
19.	Hypertensions with heart disease	...	...	5	4
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	20	32
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	5	5
22.	Influenza	...	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	7	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	11	2
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	-	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	-	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	-	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	3	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	9	10
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	4	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	-	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1960

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Isolation hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Acute Primary or Influenza Pneumonia	5	-	-
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	1	-
Measles	1063	8	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	40	4	-
Whooping Cough	66	1	-

ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Under 1 Year</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5- 9</u>	<u>10- 14</u>	<u>15- 19</u>	<u>20- 34</u>	<u>35- 44</u>	<u>45- 64</u>	<u>65 and over</u>	<u>Unknown</u>
Acute Primary or Influenza Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	10	72	120	100	150	574	16	2	6	1	-	-	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	1	3	3	3	22	7	-	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	4	3	4	6	9	35	2	-	-	-	-	-	3

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality, 1960

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Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Total Cases on Register			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	139	99
1	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	29
5	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	...	2	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35	...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
55	...	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards		3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10	3	-	1	2	1	-	-	4	-		

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations,
1925 and Public Health Act, 1936, (Section 172).

No action was necessary during the year in accordance with the above powers.

There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis of patients who had not been notified as suffering from this disease.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Diphtheria Immunisation, Whooping Cough Immunisation
and Smallpox Vaccination for 1960.

<u>Year of Birth</u>	<u>Diphtheria Immunisation</u>		<u>Smallpox Vaccination</u>		<u>Whooping-cough Immunisation</u>
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary	Revaccination	Primary
1960	167	-	100	-	168
1959	224	-	155	-	193
1958	27	2	6	-	17
1957	9	2	2	-	4
1956	3	23	1	-	3
1955	9	152	1	-	9
1954	3	40	-	-	5
1953	4	10	-	-	4
1952	2	3	-	-	2
1951	1	4	-	-	1
1950	1	2	-	1	1
1949	-	7	-	-	-
1948	2	6	-	-	2
1947	1	3	-	-	1
1946	1	2	-	-	1
Before 1946	-	1	5	2	-
Total	454	257	270	3	411

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA, 1960

The following is a return of the number of children under the age of 15 years on 31st December, 1960, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date, (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1946).

Year of Birth	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	Total
Not complete course of vaccinations (either primary or booster) 6 - 1960	108	11	56	32	116	303	299	220	222	325	314	275	289	276	167	3,013
5 or earlier	307	406	332	356	339	77	132	145	136	11	-	-	-	-	-	2,241

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION, 1960

The following table gives (A) the number of second injections and (B) the number of third injections given during the year ended 31st December, 1960.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY

Details of Survey carried out in Ashford during February/March, 1960

MINIATURE FILMS TAKEN

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
3852	3493	7345

ATTENDING MASS RADIOGRAPHY
FOR THE FIRST TIME

<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
2004	27.28

RESULTS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Active Tuberculosis	6	4	10
Inactive Tuberculosis	29	29	58
Cancer of Lung	3	-	3

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE DISTRICT

1. Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service which is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health is situated in Preston Hall, British Legion Village, Maidstone, and provides valuable services on behalf of the Public Health Departments of District Councils. For example, samples of water, milk, ice cream and other food-stuff's are regularly examined, and in relation to Infectious Diseases their bacteriological reports are of great value.

The local General Hospitals also have their own Laboratories, which provide valuable services to the other local Hospitals, to the Consultants and to the Practitioners.

2. Ambulance and Hospital Car Service.

The County Council, being the Local Health Authority administers this service throughout Kent, but in this District, the St. John Ambulance Brigade Ashford Corps (which incidentally is the oldest Corps in the Country), are responsible for the day to day execution of the service. There are five Ambulances in operation, manned by one Station Officer and twelve full-time Driver/Attendants, and by a panel of St. John Volunteers, whose devotion to duty merits high appreciation. There are also four Sitting-case Cars for ambulant cases, which cope with approximately 90% of these cases. A few cars, when necessary are provided by a panel of volunteer private car owners, who are reimbursed on a mileage basis of payment. The service is adequate for the needs of the District and is operated very efficiently.

3. Treatment Centres and Clinics.

All Maternity and Child Welfare, School and Dental Clinics are administered by the County Council.

The following Clinics are held in Ashford:-

(i) Station Road. This is the central and chief clinic and is contained in an 'ad hoc' building. The outlying clinics are complementary. Sessions are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 2.0 p.m.

(ii) Women's Institute Hall, Church Road, North Willesborough

Sessions are held at 2.0 p.m. on alternate Fridays.

(iii) Women's Institute Hall, Faversham Road, Kennington

Sessions are held at 2.0 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month.

(iv) The Community Centre, Beaver Lane, South Ashford

Sessions are held at 2.0 p.m. on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays of each month.

School Medical Service Clinics

The following clinics of the School Medical Service are held at the main Station Road Clinic.

- (a) Dental Clinic
- (b) Ophthalmic Clinic
- (c) Speech Therapy Clinic

(d) Orthopaedic Clinic

This clinic is held at Ashford Hospital, is administered by the Regional Hospitals Board and appointments are made by the County Public Health Department on behalf of school-children. It is held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 1.45 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinic

This clinic is held at Ashford Hospital on Wednesdays 9 - 1 p.m. and Fridays 2 - 6 p.m.

Tuberculosis Clinic

This clinic is held at Ashford Hospital on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.30 a.m.

Chiropody Service

A clinic was opened at the Station Road Child Welfare Centre in January 1961, by the Kent County Council to provide a service for men over 65 years and women over 60 years, for physically handicapped persons and for expectant mothers. This clinic is held on Monday afternoons and all day Thursdays.

Hospitals

- (a) Ashford General - accommodation 115 beds
- (b) Willesborough General - accommodation 134 beds
- (c) Infectious Diseases - accommodation 16 cubicle beds (including cots)

4. Private Nursing Homes

There are no Private Nursing Homes in the Urban District.

5. Home Nursing and Midwifery Services

The County Council also administers these services. On the local staff, there are six full-time and three part-time Home Nurse/Midwives who are engaged in Midwifery and Maternity Nursing and in the Home Nursing of the sick. The standard of service given by the Nurses is excellent and there is complete co-operation between them and the Practitioners. The majority of patients nursed in their homes are elderly chronic sick, many of whom are awaiting beds in Chronic Sick Hospitals which are still inadequate to cope with the waiting list.

6. The Maternity and Child Welfare Service

This service is also administered by the County Council. There are four Child Welfare Centres within the District, which are conveniently situated for mothers, and the attendances are well maintained. The value of these Clinics is reflected in the gradually falling Infant Mortality rate in the District. Every baby brought to the Clinic is regularly examined and weighed to ensure that no unsuspected defects exist and that growth is normal and vigorous. The sale of essential foods and vitamin complements at cost price is also of value to mothers. Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough and vaccination against Smallpox and Poliomyelitis are also available at these clinics.

7. The Domestic Help Service, the Family Help Service, Evening and Night Attendant Service and the Child Care Service

- (a) The Domestic Help Service of the County Council has become a very important health service in the home and has rapidly expanded within recent years. The service is administered peripherally by Area and Local Domestic Help Organisers and the assessment of income of the applicants is done by the District Officers. In this District there is an adequate pool of Domestic Helps who are paid 3/6½d. per hour and there is a sliding

scale of charges based on the family income of the applicant, the maximum charge being 4/5d. per hour, and the minimum charge 5/- per week, which is re-imbursed by the National Assistance Board in necessitous cases.

The majority of those who benefit from the service are the aged and infirm and chronic sick. Regard, however, should be given to the fact that many would degenerate into Chronic Sick Hospital cases without this service, where maintenance costs would far exceed the cost of domestic help. The Service is also of great value to lying-in mothers and to those mothers, who are discharged from Hospital following operations, and others suffering from miscellaneous illnesses. The service relieves anxiety and stress in the home particularly where there are children under five years of age and aids the recovery of the mother from illness.

(b) The Family Help Service

Prior to the recent introduction of this service, it was necessary to remove children, particularly those under five years of age, to expensive Children's Institutions from families in which the mother was absent from home through severe illness, death, estrangement, desertion or separation or other cause. The service is designed to provide help and care for the children whilst the father is at work and the Family Help may be required to reside in the home. The maximum period of help is for three months, during which period the father is expected to make permanent arrangements for the care of his children. This is a valuable service and although there is only a small number of families who require this help, expensive institutional maintenance, particularly where there is a large number of children in one family, is obviated.

(c) Evening Attendant Service

This service is designed to provide help to old people living alone but who do not require more help than half to one hour's attention before retiring for the night. The number of old people who require this service is, however, not considerable.

(d) Night Attendant Service

This service provides for people of all ages who are seriously ill and live alone. The helpers usually go at 10 p.m. and stay until 6 a.m. the following morning, and attend each night, including Sunday, until the patient recovers or dies or is removed to hospital. Assistance is also given for several nights to relatives who are unable to stay every night throughout. This service has proved to be of great value to old people living alone, most of whom have strong nostalgic attachments to their homes.

(e) Child Care Service

This domestic help service was introduced by the County Council to help the so-called Problem Families, the objectives being threefold: to raise the standard of living of these families, to improve the standard of Child Care, and to prevent the break-up of the family.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

The water supply within the Urban District is provided by two undertakings, viz. by Ashford Urban District Council and by the Mid-Kent Water Company. The Council are the undertakers supplying water for Central and South Ashford and North and South Willesborough. The Mid-Kent Water Company supplies Kennington and the Sandyhurst Lane area.

Ashford Urban District Council Undertakings

Supplies are obtained from the following three sources:-

(i) Westwell

By the end of the year there were remaining in serviceable condition two gravel-screen bore-holes, each with pumping plant installed capable of extracting 10,000 gallons per hour from each bore-hole. A softening plant (Clark's Process) is in operation here. The water is pumped by an electrically driven pump to a covered reservoir (capacity 1,000,000 gallons) at Potter's Corner, from where it enters the supply network. The source affords a standby potential supply and in addition limited quantities are regularly pumped to service.

(ii) Henwood

This supply comes from four wells with interconnecting adits, approximately 40 feet deep. From the electrically driven pumps the water is pumped into the supply network and a surplus should be diverted into the reservoir at Potter's Corner. Regular extraction from this source ceased during the year but it is maintained in serviceable condition as an emergency supply.

Water extracted from these sources are chlorinated at source, as an additional measure of safety, though the untreated waters have in successive years been of excellent bacteriological and chemical quality.

(iii) Godmersham (Bulk Supply)

A 15" trunk main provides bulk supply into the town distribution system from the Mid-Kent Water Company's source at Godmersham.

The Godmersham source is described below under Mid-Kent Water Company. At the end of the year about 1,000,000 gallons of water daily were being taken from this supply.

Samples

By arrangement with the Public Health Laboratory Service samples for bacteriological examination are taken from the sources, reservoirs and points of the distribution network at the rate of eight each month from the Ashford Urban District Council's own supplies and one from the Mid-Kent Water Company's supply network in the district. Samples for chemical analysis are also taken before and after treatment from the three sources at quarterly intervals. The Mid-Kent Water Company take three samples monthly from the sources of their supplies to the district.

Examination of Samples taken during the Year

	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Statutory Supply A.U.D.C.	58 T. 41 R.	57 T. 38 R.	1 T. 3 R.	10 T. 7 R.	10 T. 7 R.	- -
undertakings: Mid-Kent W/S	13 T. 11 R.	13 T. 11 R.	-	7 T. 5 R.	7 T. 5 R.	- -
private Sources supplied to dwellings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other private Sources	1	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

(T. = Treated. R. = Raw)

One instance occurred during the year of coal gas contamination in drinking water arising from the use of a buried plastic water supply pipe. The Public Analyst's report supported the physical evidence.

There are four houses in Beaver Lane and one in Blackwall Road known not to be connected to the public supply mains. 9,131 houses are connected to the public mains.

The Mid Kent Water Company

(i) Barham

This water is taken from the chalk, the well being about 200 feet deep. It is pumped to Hastingleigh reservoir (capacity 500,000 gallons) from where it reaches the Kennington supply network.

(ii) Charing

This water is obtained from the greensand and the borings are approximately 160 feet deep. It is pumped to Fairbourne and Charing Hill Reservoirs (capacity 1,000,000 and 283,500 gallons respectively). These reservoirs afford a subsidiary or auxiliary supply to Kennington.

(iii) Godmersham

The water source is from two 24" borings into the chalk (each 200 feet deep, with an authorised extraction of up to 3 million gallons per day. The water is pumped to Kennington supply network and the trunk main connected to the Ashford supply. It also serves Batchelor's Foods Factory water tower (100,000 gallons capacity) and some water is boosted to the Hastingleigh reservoir. A million gallon covered service reservoir on the downs near Godmersham is a balance reservoir and supplied by gravity when the Godmersham Station is shut down.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

Total number of inhabited houses (including Flats) is ...	9,136
Total number of houses connected to the sewers ...	8,889
Number of houses not connected to the sewers (estimated) ..	247

3. Swimming Baths

The Swimming Bath water, is chlorinated by a break-point chlorinator and there is also an electric suction sweeper for cleansing the basin of the bath. The size of the bath is 100 x 25 yards, and its capacity 600,000 gallons. Thirteen samples of the water sent for bacteriological examination

were satisfactory in each case.

With the Ministries sanction for a rapid filtration plant to be installed a start was made in the autumn with the object of it being in operation in time for the 1961 season.

4. Disinfection

No disinfection after infectious disease or removal of tuberculous person was required and disinfection was limited to after a case of cancer and to meet certain international travel regulations.

5. Eradication of Vermin

The number of houses found to be infested with vermin was as follows:-

	<u>Bugs</u>	<u>Fleas</u>	<u>Cockroaches</u>
Council Houses	3	7	6
Other Houses	-	5	8

Again a low incidence of vermin infestation was experienced. The improved standard of living, widespread possession of vacuum cleaners as well as the improved insecticide knowledge and techniques have brought this about. Infestation of ants (38 cases), a heavy cluster fly infestation, and an incident of red mites were dealt with successfully. Wasps were not so numerous this year (76 nests destroyed) - only one third of the 1959 problem.

The arrangements with the Hospital Authority whereby an infestation service is provided for the local General Hospitals and the Isolation Hospital were continued and operated satisfactorily.

During the Easter and Whitsun Holidays selected parts of nine school kitchen buildings in the district were sprayed to afford a persisting fly control.

Flies

There is a need for greater fly-consciousness on the part of the general public. Too often bones and fish and meat waste are put in dustbins without wrapping first in newspaper, during the summer months. Lids of dustbins are always properly replaced.

The Council's own refuse tip at Chilmington/on the prevailing wind side of the town and conceivably within flight distance. More attention to fly control there will be needed especially with the extention of housing estates in that part of the town.

The task of an initial follow-up of all dustbins for household refuse reported to be deficient was almost completed during the year. Some 664 notified to ratepayers as defective and the Council had to install dustbins in 175 instances and recover hire charges. Eighteen dustbins were withdrawn and the total number of bins on hire at the end of the year was 318.

6. Rats and Mice Destruction

Instances where rodent control work was carried out are detailed below. Domestic premises receive a free service. All infestations were of a minor character.

	RATS		MICE	
	No. of Infestations	No. of Visits	No. of Infestations	No. of Visits
Domestic	96	310	53	171
Business	19	81	28	89
Agricultural	1	1	-	-
Council (Non-domestic)	8	32	3	9

Rat infestation figures were slightly down and the incidence of mice was a little higher when compared with last years records. There was again no single heavy (major) infestation. There is a marked tendency for most rat infestations now to be found in the areas of the district contiguous to the countryside. During the Spring and Autumn extended treatments of the sewerage system in the town centre area were carried out and out of 94 manholes treated the presence of rats was only revealed at one of them and no rats were revealed in the sample survey test (10% test) of 49 manholes in the general system. Regular control of rat infestations of the Council's refuse dump at Chilmington was exercised; as re-infestations recur regularly.

Clean Air Act

During the year ten notification proposals to install furnaces were received, all except two were oil-fired.

In January 1957 it was decided that no steps were to be taken at the time to amend the Building Bylaws so as to restrict the installation in new domestic buildings to such appliances for heating or cooking as are suitably designed for burning either, gas, electricity, gas coke or anthracite. Ashford is fortunate in having a 'lung' of open country surrounding it, but with the foreshadowed increase in population and additional industrialisation it is considered necessary that the position should be reviewed.

Analysis of Public Health Inspectors Visits

Inspections

Housing

Dwellings re repairs	...	...	...	969
Number of dwellings made fit	...	...	...	149
Dwellings re Demolition & Closing Orders	...	...	...	92
Clearance areas	...	...	...	121
General survey and assessment	...	...	...	2,807
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	106
Standard Grants	...	...	...	62
Overcrowding, survey	...	...	...	64
Housing, adequacy of	...	...	...	101
Dustbins	...	...	...	644
Drainage	...	...	...	314
Water supply	...	...	...	173
Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	7
Certificates as to Remedyng of Defects	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Rent Act	...	...	...	4

Food

Bakehouses	...	...	...	22
Butchers	...	...	...	89
Catering establishments and clubs	...	...	...	99
Dairies	...	...	...	60

Inspections (Contd.)

Food

Fish (incl. fried)	...	...	...	19
Licensed premises	...	...	...	49
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	775
Stalls, itinerant vendors and delivery vans	...	...	...	244
All other food premises	...	...	...	374
Registered premises under Sec. 16 included in above	...	...	...	235
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	4

General

Rats and mice destruction	...	...	...	143
Other vermin	...	...	...	159
Dirty houses	...	...	...	38
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	30
Offensive odours	...	...	...	25
Nuisances from keeping animals	...	...	...	29
Tents, vans and sheds	...	...	...	79
Aged and infirm persons	...	...	...	24
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	11
Schools	...	...	...	9
Noise	...	...	...	8
Smoke abatements - observations visits	...	...	...	28
	...	...	...	23

Factories and Shops

Factories with power (Notices served)	...	...	...	79
Factories non-power (Notices served)	...	...	...	9
Workplaces	...	...	...	16
Outworkers	...	...	...	1
Agricultural Welfare	...	...	...	5
Shops Act	...	...	...	4
Heating Appliances	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	13
	...	...	...	3
	...	...	...	117

Improvements and Repairs Effected

i. House Repairs

(a) External

Chimney stacks	...	...	...	18
Roofs	...	...	...	35
Gutters and fall pipes.	...	...	...	23
Brickwork, pointing and rendering	...	...	...	12
Windows (incl. cords)	...	...	...	29
Doors	...	...	...	12
Decorations	...	...	...	3
Outbuildings	...	...	...	4
Yard surfacing	...	...	...	8

(b) Internal

Plasterwork (walls and ceilings)	...	...	...	30
Doors and cupboards	...	...	...	5
Fireplaces and stoves	...	...	...	15
Staircases	...	...	...	8
Floors (including under-floor ventilation)	...	...	...	28
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	4

Improvements and Repairs Effected (Contd.)

ii. Dampness Remedied

Walls	...	...	...	30
Floors	...	...	...	8

iii. Foodstore

Made satisfactory	...	...	...	2
Provided	...	...	...	9

iv. Water Supply

Leaks repaired	...	...	...	2
Piping renewed	...	...	...	11
Sinks renewed	...	...	...	13
Drainers renewed or provided	5

v. Water Closets

Repaired	14
New provided	4

vi. Ventilation

Improved	-
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vii. Natural Lighting

Improved	1
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viii. Drainage

Drains renewed or repaired	20
Drains cleared	6

ix. Stability Remedied

...	1
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x. Dustbins renewed

...	25
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FACTORIES ACTS, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provision as to health

	<u>Number on Reg- ister</u>	<u>Inspec- tions</u>	<u>Number of Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authority	35	16	1	-
Factories not included in (i) which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	143	144	9	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	18	3	2	-
Total	196	160	11	-

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which Prosecution were Instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	1	1	1	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Convenience					
(a) insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	11	-	4	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	2	2	-	-	-
Total	19	20	1	4	-

OUTWORKERS - There are two outworkers in the district

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The number of dwellings completed during the year was as follows:-

	1960	1946 - 9 (inclus.)
(i) Prefabricated temporary bungalows	143	14
(ii) New Permanent houses:-		
<u>Woolreeds Estate</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	5
(b) 3 " "	-	361
(c) 4 " "	-	21
(d) 2 " maisonettes (Court Wurtin)	-	1
(e) 2 " type (Court Wurtin)	-	1
<u>Musgrove Estate</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	40
(b) 3 " "	-	7
(c) 4 " "	-	1
<u>Osborne Road Estate</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	28
(b) 3 " "	-	17
(c) 4 " "	-	1
<u>Aylesford Green Estate</u>		
(a) 2 bedroom type	-	10
(b) 3 " "	-	10

		<u>1960</u>	<u>1946 - 1960</u> <u>(inclusive)</u>
<u>Beaver Green Estate</u>			
(a) 2 bedroom type		-	50
(b) 3 " "		21	182
<u>Burton Estate</u>			
{a) 2 bedroom type		-	58
{b) 3 " "		-	94
<u>Repton Estate</u>			
{a) 2 bedroom type		-	30
{b) 3 " "		-	60
(iii) <u>Flats</u>			
<u>Croft Road</u>			
(a) Bed-sitting room type		-	2
(b) 2 bedroom type		-	1
(c) 1 : " "		-	3
<u>Musgrove Estate</u>			
(a) Gregory Flats		-	28
(b) Bed-sitting room type		-	16
(c) 2 bedroom Easiform type		-	16
<u>Woolreeds Estate</u>			
(a) Bed-sitting room type		-	6
(b) 2 bedroom type		-	6
(c) 1 " " (Court Wurtin)		-	10
(d) 2 " " " "		-	2
<u>Osborne Roud Estate</u>			
(a) 3 bedroom type		-	1
<u>Godfrey Walk</u>			
(a) Bed-sitting room type		-	13
(b) 1 bedroom type		-	27
(c) 2 " "		-	28
<u>Beaver Green Estate</u>			
(a) Gregory Flats		-	28
<u>Aylesford Green Estate</u>			
(a) 2 bedroom type		-	20
(b) 1 " "		-	12
<u>East Stour Farm</u>		-	8
<u>Repton Estate</u>		-	48
(iv) <u>Old People's Bungalows</u>			
(a) <u>Burton Estate</u>		-	12
(b) <u>Beaver Green Estate</u>		-	12
(c) <u>Woolreeds Estate</u> (Court Wurtin)		-	
2 bedroom type		-	5

1960 1946 - 1960
 (inclusiv)

(d) Waterside

1 bedroom type	6	6
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(e) Gladstone and Mead Roads

1 bedroom type	—	2
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Total number of units provided by the Council	27	1672
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Number provided by private enterprise	103	995
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Analysis of Applications for Council houses registered to 12-4-1961
Living in Ashford - inadequately housed

Childless couples	84	
One child families	66	
Two/Three child families	42	
Four or more child families	10	202

Living in Ashford - adequately housed

Childless couples	69	
One child families	86	
Two/Three child families	59	
Four or more child families	6	220

Living elsewhere, working in Ashford - inadequately housed

Childless couples	9	
One child families	10	
Two/Three child families	10	
Four or more child families	5	34

Living elsewhere, working in Ashford - adequately housed

Childless couples	19	
One child families	10	
Two/Three child families	39	
Four or more child families	6	74

Applicants for bed-sitting room flats of whom 24 are householders ...	30
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Applicants for old peoples dwellings of whom 55 are householders ...	89
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Total	649
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Slum Clearance

The slum clearance programme proceeded with the results set out in the table given. Houses and parts of houses dealt with since the program got under way total 72.

A. Houses demolished

In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year	
		Persons	Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement	Nil	Nil	Nil

	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
		<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
Houses on land acquired under Sect. 43(2) Housing Act, 1957	Nil	Nil	Nil
in Clearance Areas			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957.	2	Nil	Nil
<u>Unfit Houses Closed</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Displaced during year</u>	
Under Sec. 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	8	19	9
Under Sec. 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Parts of buildings closed under Sec. 18, Housing Act, 1957	6	3	1

In 1959 a survey of housing accommodation in the area was started and some 1,184 dwelling houses and flats in the centre of the town were dealt with. During 1960 the survey continued and 1,655 more dwellings were placed in categories as follow:-

'A' - Slums - Houses under consideration for action within five years.

'B' - Near 'ripe' - Houses for which on account of the condition of their structure or repair a life of upwards of 15 years would not be anticipated (and would not warrant improvement).

'C' - Sub-standard - Substandard houses, with a probable life of 15 years which would not easily be included in slum clearance (except to 'round off' an area).

'D' - Good - Basically sound houses, (including houses substandard in amenities only but capable and worthwhile of bringing up to a modern standard).

Based on the results of the survey it was possible in November to recommend a five-year programme involving the closure, demolition or clearance of some 126 unfit houses during the period 1960 - 1965. This was accepted by the Council and steady progress is expected in dealing with them. It is further hoped to be able to complete the survey of the whole area during 1961.

It was hoped that accommodation for old persons could be provided in the town centre by repair and modernization and adaption of houses in the Churchyard environs, some of which will otherwise have to be dealt with under the slum clearance programme.

Improvement of Houses

As in previous years close co-operation is maintained with the Surveyor's Department in connection with the improvement and conversion of dwellings. This involved 168 visits by inspectors, discussions with owners and others and preliminary scheduling of improvements and repairs. Altogether preliminary proposals on 104 houses were prepared but from the figures given below, supplied by the Surveyor, it again appears that only about half the persons contemplating improving property under the scheme do so. Owner/occupiers secured the grants in forty instances (28 'discretionary' grants and 12 'standard' grants).

In spite of the attraction of standard grants the rate of modernization of dwellings is very slow and making little impression on the need that exists. There is a growing tendency for houses to be divided into flatlets, and in view of the lack of applications for conversion grants it is evident that the high rents which can be obtained for this accommodation is the deciding factor. There is need for more control of multi-let properties and for more housing accommodation.

Discretionary Grants

No. of applications for grant	...	...	29	(41)
No. of applications approved	...	...	* 33	(37)
Amount of Grant approved	...	...	£5,805	(£5,968)

Standard Grants

No. of applications made	...	...	16	(12)
No. of applications approved	...	...	* 17	(7)
Amount of grant paid	...	...	£1,259	(£1,259)

Conversions

No. of applications submitted	...	...	Nil	(5)
No. of applications approved	...	...	Nil	(-)
Amount of Grant approved	...	...	Nil	(-)

(Previous years figures given in brackets)

*Includes applications received during previous year.

SECTION E.

1. Milk Supplies

There are twenty-three registered distributors of milk and nine dairies registered with the local authority. Licences to dealers in designated milks were issued as follow:-

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Dealers Licences</u>	<u>Supplementary Licences</u>
Tuberculin Tested	11	3
Pasteurised	12	5
Sterilised	21	2

Dairies are inspected to ensure that the standards prescribed by the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 are maintained. Samples of Milk, in course of delivery, are taken regularly.

During the year, the following samples were taken for examination in accordance with the tests prescribed by the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations.

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Tuberculin Tested (Raw)	...	2
Sterilised	...	2
Pasteurised	...	60

2. Ice Cream

Sampling was again mainly concentrated on sales of loose ice cream. The results showed continued improvement.

<u>Ice Cream</u>	<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>	<u>Grade 3</u>	<u>Grade 4</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Samples of 'loose'	29	15	3	-	47
Samples of wrapped	9	-	-	-	9
Total	38	15	3	-	56

One catering establishment locally produces ice cream by the complete cold mix process and retails it 'loose'. Some 99 premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream. Compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations is first necessary. Practically all ice cream sold from registered premises is sold pre-packed.

3. Meat and Other Foods

Unsound Food Surrendered

	<u>lbs.</u>		<u>lbs.</u>		
Chicken	...	41 $\frac{1}{4}$	Tomatoes	...	833 $\frac{1}{4}$
Miscellaneous	...	70 $\frac{3}{4}$	Paste	...	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bacon	...	276 $\frac{1}{2}$	Milk Foods	...	12
Dried Fruit	...	522 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pudding Mix	...	3
Ham	...	306 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cereal	...	45 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tongue	...	38 $\frac{3}{4}$	Liver	...	41
Corned Beef	...	301	Sweets	...	42
Kidney	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ducks	...	5
Veal Loaf or Beef	...	253 $\frac{3}{4}$	Cream	...	22
Stewed Steak	...	81 $\frac{1}{2}$	Pork	...	22 $\frac{1}{4}$
Luncheon Meat	...	146 $\frac{1}{2}$	Prunes	...	98
Fish	...	114 $\frac{1}{4}$	Jam	...	8
Cheese	...	38	Macaroni	...	3
Pastry	...	10	Rabbit	...	305
Sausage	...	37	Fruit Juice	...	144 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned Milk	...	67 $\frac{3}{4}$	Marmalade	...	26
Vegetables	...	425 $\frac{1}{2}$	Swiss Rolls	...	2
Meat and Vegetables..		1	Turkey	...	10
Soup	...	24 $\frac{3}{4}$	Pudding	...	2
Fruit	...	1354			

Total weight condemned: 2 tons 11 cwts 4 lbs.

Reject meat from the slaughterhouse, unfit bacon and butchers meat is slashed and soaked with green aniline dye after which it is removed for the manufacture of by-products in another part of the county. Other foodstuffs, comprising mainly unsound tinned foods are disposed of by dumping under refuse at the Council's refuse dump.

Ashford has become a very important provisions distribution centre for the South East. This accounts for the rather high figure of certain unsound foods appearing in the preceding table.

All poultry is regularly inspected at the local market auctions, normally held twice weekly. During the year 6,271 poultry were examined and 4 Turkeys, 7 Ducks and 99 Chicken were rejected.

A conviction was secured in the case of the deposit of an unfit chicken for sale at the market and it was felt advisable to send a circular letter to persons leaving dead stock for auction drawing attention to need for care in preparation and storage and of their responsibilities to use reasonable diligence to ensure that only fit food is offered for sale for human consumption.

4. Food Hygiene

Routine inspection of food premises are very necessary and more of this work should be done. The following list indicates improvements affected on food premises by informal notification to occupiers.

Wounds exposed, warnings given	...	-
Smoking, warnings given	...	3
Clothes storage, made satisfactory	...	10
First aid, outfits provided	...	12
Hand washing labels, provided	...	6
Hand washing facilities, improved	...	45
Washing up facilities improved	...	16
Cleanliness, generally improved	...	12
Wall, floor and ceiling finishes improved	...	33
Lighting made adequate	...	10
Preparation tops made hygienic	...	14
Ventilation improved	...	9
Equipment - cleanliness made satisfactory	...	6
Exposed food, protection improved	...	29
Temperature control of foods, warnings	...	1
Storage food, improved	...	3
Storage wrapping paper and empties improved	...	1
Miscellaneous improvements	...	35

There are some thirty-four premises registered for the manufacture of meat products (mainly sausages).

It was commented in last years report that whilst the consequences of any lapse on the part of food trade might have widespread ill effects the part the housewife has to play is critical in individual cases. One single case of food poisoning arose in June from unsatisfactory domestic food-storage - the retention overlong in an unventilated food cupboard of boiled bacon. The closing in of the back yard (conservatory fashion) by increasing temperatures inside the house, also had its part to play in this. On the other hand, with the excellent co-operation given by a local food firm and a catering establishment special disinfection routine for staff hands were operated during a possible risk period when there were possible connections with a dysentery outbreak in a primary school and elsewhere. The only record of this, the desirable one, is that no spread of the disease occurred.

A limited sampling of individual meat pies carried out in the spring revealed a very satisfactory bacteriological picture.

Carcasses of Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	604	214	61	3111	4325	-
Number inspected	604	214	61	3111	4325	-
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	2	5	24	10	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	192	119	2	260	694	-
Percentage of the number inspec- ted affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	31.8	55.5	11.5	9.1	16.3	-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
<u>uberculosis only</u>						
hole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
arcases of which some part or gan was condemned	1	2	-	-	73	-
percentage of the number insp- ected affected with tuberculosis	0.2	0.9	-	-	1.6	-
<u>cysticercosis</u>						
arcases of which some part or gan was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
rcases submitted to treatment refrigeration	3	-	-	-	-	-
eneralised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Number of Slaughter-houses in use

Slaughter-houses/Abattoirs in operation owned or leased by Local Authority	Private Slaughter-houses		Bacon Factories	Knackers' Yards
	Licensed	Operating		
None	2	2	None	None

Slaughter-house Report to the Minister

The two private slaughterhouses situate in the central area of the town had to continue to function. The first preparation of the Slaughterhouse Facilities Report was delayed owing to the uncertainties of local intentions regarding the provision of new facilities. In September however it became clear that local private proposals were not to be proceeded with, and in view of the need and the town interests involved the Council resolved in principle to provide a slaughterhouse capable of dealing with 25 - 30 cattle units per day on a site previously selected. The Slaughterhouse Report was submitted to the Minister on 8th November 1960, embodying this proposal.

